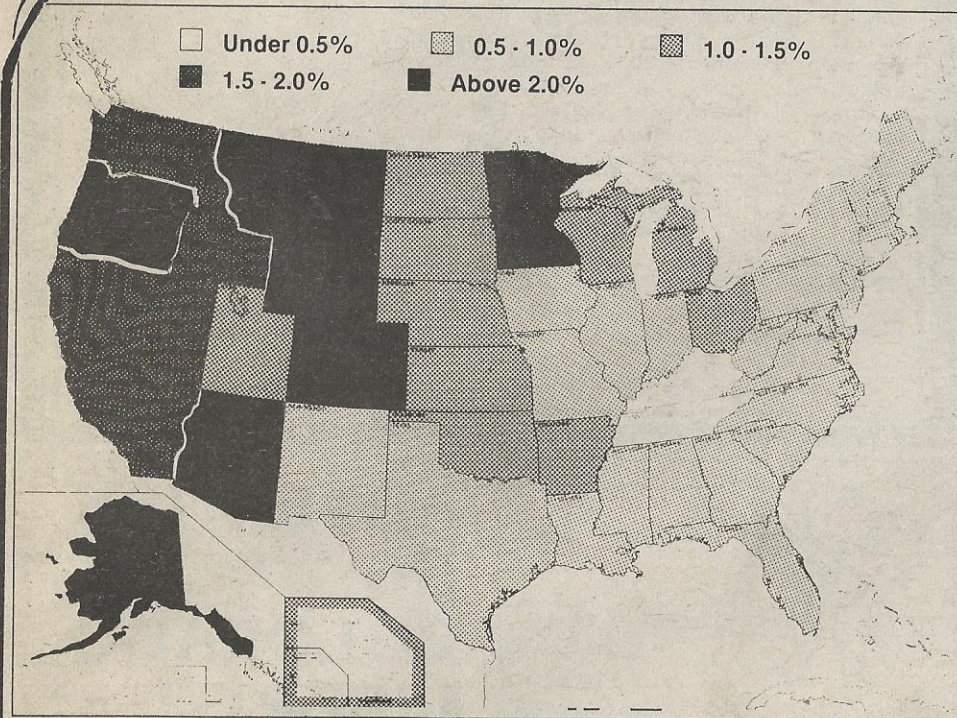




Colorado Liberty

25,000 in Colorado Vote Libertarian



WESTERN BIAS of support for the LP ticket is shown by map above. Colorado was one of only six states where Clark received better than 2% of the vote.

National Total Tops 900,000

Although absolute final figures are not available as of the time we went to press, the nationwide vote total for Libertarian presidential candidate Ed Clark and his running-mate David Koch appears to be close to 950,000. This represents about

is offset by good news from a number of state and local Libertarian races, however.

In Alaska, Dick Randolph won re-election to the state legislature; a second Libertarian, Ken Fanning, will be joining him

The Libertarian presidential ticket received 25,600 votes on November 4, finishing fourth behind the three candidates who were allowed to participate in the national debates, and well ahead of all the other candidates.

While the vote total was less than hoped for by party leaders, it nonetheless represented a substantial improvement over prior elections. In 1972, John Hospers, the party's first presidential candidate, received slightly over 1,000 votes, about 0.1%, and in 1976, Roger MacBride garnered 5,330 votes, about 0.5%. This year's total is over four times that of 1976, and 23 times the total in 1972.

Vote totals ranged from a low of 0.7% in Huerfano County (Archuleta County had not reported Clark's total at this writing), to a high of 6.6% in San Juan County in Southwest Colorado. In thirteen counties, more than 3% of the voters chose Clark, including Pitkin (5.3%), Park (4.5%), Gilpin and Clear Creek (4%), Summit (3.8%), Eagle (3.2%), and Boulder (3%).

Generally, the party's best showing was in mountain counties just west of the Denver metropolitan area, with a substantial drop-off in the eastern plains and the south.

Congressional candidates received a total of 22,200 votes, slightly lower than Clark's total, probably due to predictions of tight races in two of the districts. This year's congressional campaigns were the Colorado party's first attempt at the congressional level since 1972, and represented the first full slate of alternative congressional candidates to be offered

Cynthia Molson-Smith received 5,526 votes, or 2.1%, in the sprawling Fourth District, previously held by Republican Jim Johnson. Molson-Smith's totals went as high as 7.3% in Clear Creek County. The seat was won by former Republican candidate for Lieutenant Governor, Hank Brown. The other candidate was well-known Democratic State Legislator Polly Baca-Barragan.

In Jefferson and Boulder County's Second District, Paul Grant finished third with 4,632 votes, 1.7%, in a four-way race that included well-known Boulder physician and Citizen Party candidate Dr. Robert McFarland. Always a cliff-hanger, this race was again predicted to be very close, and Grant's totals were no doubt reduced by poll predictions and by McFarland's candidacy. Three-term liberal Democrat Tim Wirth was re-elected.

In the first attempt by the Colorado party to run in Southern Colorado, Bailey Libertarian Jim Glennie received 2,613 votes, or about 1.4%, in a three-way race. Another sprawling district, the Third District race was predicted to be close, and featured a re-match of 1978's race. Incumbent liberal Democrat Ray Kogovsek was returned for a second term. Glennie received 6% of the vote in Park County.

In State Representative races, Ruth Bennett received 3.4% in Capitol Hill's District Eleven. Popular Denver Democrat Jack McCroskey was re-elected. In the 57th District, Aspen Libertarian Stormy Mon received 5.5%, including almost 10% in Lt. Gov. Nancy Dick's home of Pitkin County.

the nationwide vote total for Libertarian presidential candidate Ed Clark and his running-mate David Koch appears to be close to 950,000. This represents about 1.1% of the 85 million votes cast in the presidential election; eleven votes out of every thousand.

The LP ticket's greatest strength was in the Rocky Mountain and Western states (see map). Highest showing was 12% in Alaska; about double Roger MacBride's percentage four years ago. Only five states in the "lower 48" pulled better than 2% for Clark. These were Wyoming and Montana, with about 2.7% each, and Arizona, Oregon and Colorado, each with about 2.2%.

Highest numerical vote for Clark, as expected, was in California, where he received close to 150,000 votes. Other large totals came in New York, Illinois and Ohio, each with about 50,000 votes.

Clark's overall showing was a disappointment to campaign strategists, who had talked confidently of "several million" votes up until late September. Those in charge of the Clark effort place the blame for the shortfall on Independent candidate John Anderson. Campaign critics say the problem was due more to a misconceived campaign strategy and poor management. Heated discussion is expected at the upcoming Libertarian National Committee meeting in New Orleans, December 7-8.

The disappointment at Clark's showing

Board to Select Committee Chairs

The Libertarian Board of Directors will select the chairs for the 1981 Platform Committee and Constitution and By-laws Committee at their December meeting. The meeting will be held on Thursday, December 18, at 7:30 p.m., rather than the normally scheduled fourth Wednesday of the month, due to the holidays.

Persons interested in the positions should apply prior to the meeting or attend that night.

At its November meeting, the Board adopted a new procedure for determining the committees' membership. Due to substantial growth this past year, and to recent county organizational work (see p. 3), each

In Alaska, Dick Randolph won re-election to the state legislature; a second Libertarian, Ken Fanning, will be joining him when the session opens. Alaskans also elected Libertarian Stan Thompson mayor of Kenai Borough.

In Bakersfield, California, Libertarian Mary K. Shell was elected mayor in a nominally non-partisan race. (We say "nominally" because while candidates were not designated by party on the ballot, Shell campaigned openly as a Libertarian.)

In Oregon, Tonie Nathan received almost 4% in her U.S. Senate race. This was the best showing by a Libertarian in a Senate race to date. Other LP Senate contenders who did well were Bud Shasteen in Hawaii (3.6%) and David Bergland in California (2.5%). In two Senate races, Libertarian candidates "made the difference" between the two major contenders. Arizona's Fred Esser received 1.4% in a race where Barry Goldwater edged out a strong Democratic challenger by less than one percent. Likewise, in Idaho, Larry Fullmer's 1.9% exceeded the spread between defeated liberal Democrat Frank Church and his conservative Republican replacement, Steve Symms.

Libertarian Congressional candidates pulled totals of 7% to 8% in some three-way races; State Legislature candidates did better yet. The cumulative vote total for all Libertarian candidates in 1980 is projected at close to three million; this compares with a cumulative total of 1.3 million in 1978.

county affiliated by February 25, 1981, will be entitled to one member on each committee. Counties with more than 50 members will be entitled to one additional member for each additional 50 state party members. The same person may not be a member of both committees, and the committee chairs will not be counted as part of any county's representation.

The work of both committees will commence in late February, to be completed by no later than March 31, 1981. The changes proposed by both committees will be provided to the Party membership prior to the May 23rd State Convention in Ft. Collins.

congressional level since 1972, and represented the first full slate of alternative congressional candidates to be offered Colorado voters in modern history.

The highest vote total was received by Dr. John Lanning, of Colorado Springs, in the Fifth District. Lanning received 5,558 votes, or 2.3%, in a three-way race won handily by incumbent conservative Republican Ken Kramer.

In Denver's First District, John Mason finished third in a four-way race with 3,873 votes, about 2.2%. Incumbent four-term Democrat Pat Schroeder was the winner.

GOP Takes Beating

How can a party handily defeat its opponents and still be a minority in the halls of Congress? That's a question that Colorado Republicans surely are asking themselves, and the answer is both easily identified and resolved.

In Colorado's 1980 congressional elections, three incumbent Democrats were returned to Washington, maintaining their 3-2 margin in Congress. Closer examination of the vote, however, shows a result that must be frustrating to the state GOP: out of 1.15 million votes cast in congres-

sonal races, Republicans netted 54%, Democrats 44%, and Libertarians 2%.

With re-districting on the agenda of the Republican-dominated state Legislature, it is fairly certain that the GOP will make sure they never see such results again. Depending on whether or not Colorado gains an additional seat, look for the Republicans to set up 3-4 sure Republican districts, one Democratic district (probably Denver), and one toss-up.

And look for the Democrats to scream bloody murder.

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From the Chair

by John Mason

Not as great as we had hoped, but the results are cause for celebration nonetheless. In addition to maintaining an impressive growth curve, we've now got a core of people experienced in fairly intensive Congressional campaigns. We've learned a lot, and there are a lot of new people involved now.

And interest remains high. Our election night party was attended by over 200 Libertarians, and a discussion group the next night was attended by about forty people, even though many were exhausted from the work of the previous week.

There are many people to thank for our successful efforts this year. Over 150 people were involved in door-belling, literature distribution, and working in the office. We distributed over 150,000 pieces of literature. Our candidates received more press coverage than ever before, and every one of them filled their schedules with as many speaking engagements as possible.

There is no doubt that our candidates conducted impressive campaigns, considering their resources, and all who saw any of their speaking or TV appearances

would agree that the Libertarian candidates were impressive.

Special thanks to a few. Thanks to Jim Phelps, who was first, and who fought the good fight. And to Paul Grant, who campaigned constantly up and down Jefferson and Boulder counties, despite having to run his own business. And to Jim Glennie, who agreed to run so we would have a full slate, and then proceeded to campaign all over southern Colorado while managing to maintain his 8-5 grind in downtown Denver. And to Rodney Howe, whose generous contributions provided the full page ads which undoubtedly pushed our results up. And to Ruth Bennett, Sarah Fulton, Jim Brooks, Jon Baraga, and Gale Norton, all of whom contributed an incredible amount of time.

Much more is coming up: county organizing, the state and national conventions, and preparations for 1982. To keep the momentum, we need to keep the office open and staffed. Please consider making your most generous pledge today.

And thanks again — to everyone. It might have been hard, but it was fun.

And Now, Reagan...

by David F. Nolan

Ten months ago, eyeing the contenders for the Republican presidential nomination, I made the following observations about Ronald Reagan:

"Reagan has a reputation far better than he deserves. He gives great lip-service to free-market ideals, but his record belies his rhetoric. When pressed, he admits that there is practically no area of government that he would actually dismantle, and his performance as governor of California showed that he is no pinch-penny; spending by the state government there actually rose faster, on an annual percentage basis, during Reagan's two terms than it did under either his Democratic predecessor or his Democratic successor.

marketeers do a fair job of pressing for it. (Once Reagan is inaugurated, it would probably be worth taking the time to send him two letters: one pushing for deregulation; the other asking him to cancel the draft registration program.)

In terms of general economic policy, we'll probably get a tax "cut"—to wit, a smaller tax increase—as promised. But since there will be no overall reduction of spending, inflation is likely to surge in the short term. Over the long haul, it may abate, but don't assume that the era of sound money is here!

There will likely be minor spending cuts, as some of the more blatant fraud and waste is eliminated. But any savings will be more than offset by hikes in military

Colorado Libertarian Calendar

- Dec. 10** CLP Cocktail Party, 2nd Wednesday every month, 7:30 p.m., at the Party office, 1041 Cherokee, Denver, 573-5229. Cash Bar, relaxed evening with fellow Libertarians. Bring friends and catch up on the news.
- Dec. 17** Discussion Group, 1st and 3rd Wednesday every month, 7:30 p.m., at the Party office. Topic: religion and Libertarianism.
- Dec. 18** CLP Board Meeting, 7:30 p.m., at Party office, 1041 Cherokee, Denver. Chairs for Platform and Constitution Committees to be chosen.
- Jan. 7** Discussion Group, 7:30 p.m. Call office for topic.
- Jan. 14** CLP Cocktail Party, 7:30 p.m., at Party office. Cash Bar. Bring friends.
- Jan. 15** Ad space closing for Feb./Mar. Colorado Liberty.
- Jan. 21** Discussion Group, 7:30 p.m. Call office for topic.
- Jan. 22** Material due for Feb./Mar. Colorado Liberty.
- Jan. 28** CLP Board Meeting, 7:30 p.m. at Party office.
- Feb. 4 & 18** Discussion Group, 7:30 p.m. Call office for topics.
- Feb. 11** CLP Cocktail Party, 7:30 p.m. Cash Bar.
- Feb. 25** CLP Board Meeting, 7:30 p.m. Deadline for county affiliation for committee representation.
- May 23 & 24** State Convention, Fort Collins.

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under either his Democratic predecessor or his Democratic successor.

"Reagan is a foreign-policy hawk, well to the right of Carter, an advocate of massive increases in defense spending—and no great defender of civil liberties. America under a Reagan administration would be no worse a place to live than under Jimmy Peanut, but it would be no better either. Inflation would probably be cut, and fuel more plentiful, but we would have to suffer through a new wave of nationalistic fervor and social pietism as payment."

I see no reason to make any major changes in that assessment now. Despite numerous peoples' hopes—or fears—I will still maintain that the change from Carter to Reagan will produce little substantive difference in the affairs of this country. The verses change, but the song remains the same.

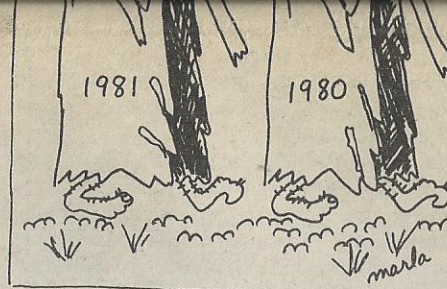
The most promising aspect to a Reagan administration is that it may make some moves to deregulate American industry, especially those sectors involved in energy development. I wouldn't hold my breath waiting, but it's a realistic hope ... especially if Libertarians and free-

There will likely be minor spending cuts, as some of the more blatant fraud and waste is eliminated. But any savings will be more than offset by hikes in military spending.

The likelihood of our becoming involved in another overseas war is probably no greater than it would have been had Carter been re-elected. In fact, if history is a reliable guide, it's less likely! Historically speaking, it has not been the "hawks" who have gotten us into wars, but rather the "doves" — Wilson, Roosevelt and Johnson.

Far more probable is the prospect of a Garrison State. Egged on by puritan zealots of the Moral Majority stripe, a Reagan administration may well move to reduce civil liberties and reinstitute the Cold War mentality of the 1950's. Censorship and harassment of dissenters and critics—Libertarians among them—is a more likely threat than nuclear annihilation, in my estimate.

Looking ahead four years, it seems clear that Reagan's performance will be judged by the same standard he asked this year's voters to apply to Carter: "Are you better off or worse off than you were?" And the



THE SAME OLD POLITICS

answer to that question may well determine the future of libertarianism as a political movement (although not as a philosophy).

If most people perceive things to be substantially better in 1984 than they were in 1980, it will be difficult—perhaps even impossible—for us to make much headway in political sphere. If, on the other hand, things continue to get worse, the Orwellian year of 1984 may prove to be the "do or die" year for the LP. And our chances of success will depend on our ability to build a genuine grassroots movement between now and then.

1041 Cherokee Street, Denver 80204. Phone 573-5229.

STAFF

Managing Editor: David F. Nolan
Staff and Contributors: Tom Mullen, Dwight Filley, Stormy Mon, John Mason, Jim Phelps, Mark Travis, Marla Huizinga, Dave Burton, Lenn Jackson.

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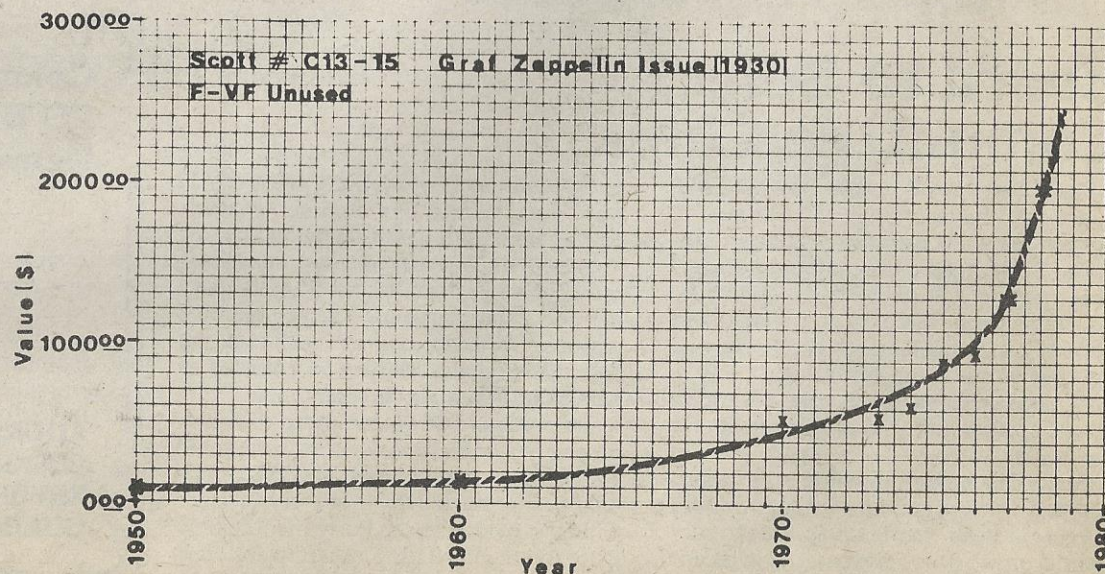


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It came alive again in 1978, following the Great California Tax Revolt, and succeeded in getting an eighth legislature (Arizona's) to endorse the proposal.

Now, a drive is underway to get more states to hop on the bandwagon. And the long-dormant Liberty Amendment Committee has come alive again in Colorado.

Co-Chairs of the Liberty Amendment effort in Colorado are Polly Ruhtenberg of Colorado Springs (phone 634-6542) and Jim Phelps of Evergreen (674-3709). Polly and Jim plan to hold an organizing meeting in early 1981, to generate grassroots support for passage of the Liberty Amendment Resolution by the new Colorado legislature.

To get involved in the Liberty Amendment Committee, contact Polly or Jim.

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"Sec. 3. The activities of the United States Government which violate the intent and purposes of this amendment shall, within a period of three years from the date of the ratification of this amendment, be liquidated and the properties and facilities affected shall be sold.

"Sec. 4. Three years after the ratification of this amendment the sixteenth article of amendments to the Constitution of the United States shall stand repealed and thereafter Congress shall not levy taxes on personal incomes, estates, and/or gifts."

County LP's Organizing

Listed below are the CLP county chairs and contacts. Now's your chance to get involved without having to come to Denver all the time. If you don't see your county represented here contact our office about becoming the CLP contact on your area.

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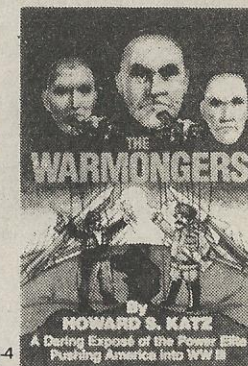
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Today's Logic**Don't Affiliate** by James W. Phelps

When you registered to vote did you declare an affiliation with one of the major parties?

Even if you registered many years ago as a Republican or Democrat that registration may come back to haunt you.

Legislatures in several states, made up of Democrats and Republicans, have been passing laws restricting potential political opponents.

The laws I'm referring to say that you can't run for political office as an "independent" if you have been registered as a member of any political party at any time during the previous year.

Elsewhere in their laws they "define" political party to mean only the Republican and Democratic Parties.

Other parties, such as the Libertarian Party, the Communist Party, and the Socialist Workers Party, are defined as "political organizations."

This is like saying black is white. It doesn't make black white, it just makes it difficult to understand what is going on.

It's sort of copying the communists who claim they are "liberating" people when they are actually enslaving them.

When a member of a minor party tries to register as a member of his party he is told, in most states, that he can't do it. He must

choose Republican, Democrat or unaffiliated (or independent).

He may say to himself, "I'm affiliated with the Libertarian Party, so I can't really say I'm 'unaffiliated' or 'independent'; and, since the Republican (or Democratic) philosophy is closest to mine, I'll register as a Republican (or Democrat)."

Then, months or years later, the Republicans and Democrats pass the law referred to above.

In the meantime the voter has become more and more disenchanted with both of the major parties and decides to run for political office as a Libertarian (or Communist or Socialist or whatever).

But, because of a law that didn't exist when he registered, he finds he can't run for office until a full year after changing his registration.

When he registered he wasn't permitted to register his true affiliation and was forced to choose one of three wrong categories. And, because of a new law passed after he registered, he now finds he chose the *wrong* category.

It is not in the interests of a free people to let those in power exert any control over their peaceful political opposition, but the U.S. Supreme Court has upheld the law and another of our rights has been taken from us.

and thrived on the cool air, water and plentiful wild game. One was mauled by a bear and survived. Another was killed by lightning while flying a kite on a mountain. The libertarian newspapers printed warnings about bears and standing on mountaintops during thunderstorms. The libertarians lived happily ever after.

* * *

Which group is the best way to organize a society? Which group would you choose to be in?

Four Groups — Postscript

When the first three groups turned back,

Four Groups
by Stormy Mon

Once upon a time, four groups of 100 each lived on the plains. It was spring, and they looked toward the mountains. They had heard about cool air and water, and plentiful game there.

The first group was headed by a dictator king. As he was leading his people into the mountains for the first time, a messenger warned them of wild beasts: At the same time, a fierce thunderstorm appeared over the mountains. Sixty of the people wanted to turn back, and 40 wanted to continue. The king consulted with his court intellectuals and mystics. Then he proclaimed, "By royal decree and divine right, anyone

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The king consulted with his court intellectuals and mystics. Then he proclaimed, "By royal decree and divine right, anyone who goes into the mountains will have their head cut off." No one went into the mountains.

The second group was led by a communist central committee. They had also heard of the beasts and saw the thunderstorm. The people were divided, 60 wanting to turn back and 40 proceed. The central committee met and issued a law: "For the public good, no one shall go into the mountains. Violators will be sentenced to 10 years hard labor." Two mavericks went into the mountains. One was caught and sentenced to 10 years hard labor, as an example. The other was never heard from again and the central committee newspaper said he had been eaten by wild animals.

The third group settled disputes by vote. After much lobbying by conservative entrenched interests, the vote was 60 in favor of turning back due to wild animals and hostile weather. So a law was passed: "For the public health, safety and welfare, no one shall go into the mountains. This law is punishable by up to one year in prison and \$5,000 fine." Two individualists went into the mountains. One was caught and sentenced to a year in prison, as an example. The government issued a press release stating that government experts had conducted a study. The other missing person was probably killed by wild animals or lightning. The newspapers published the findings of the government study. One headline read, "Mountain Man Eaten Alive By Wild Animals."

The fourth group were libertarians. 60 chose to turn back. 40 went into the mountains, met the two surviving mavericks,

Four Groups — Postscript

When the first three groups turned back, the 40 who were not in agreement with the decision were upset. Some were resentful and felt alienated. The third group that uses voting for decision making is a good example for all three groups.

When the 100 arrived back at their original home, some progressives weren't satisfied with the existing entrenched special interests. They saw an opportunity for change and proposed a new location on the other side of a river. Once again there was fierce lobbying, and rumors of vote fraud and scandal. The vote was 60 in favor of staying at the original location. But not the same coalition of 60 that had won the mountain-plains vote. Now a *majority* of the 100 was upset and alienated. The people who had been on the losing side of *both* votes were *very* upset. They began to see a pattern developing and there was talk of riots and rebellion. Crime, divorce and drug use and abuse increased. Independent studies showed this breakdown was most common in the alienated group.

After a period of time, and several votes, *everyone* was upset about something. Respect for all the laws was practically non-existent. Some felt more centralized control was the answer. A strong, charismatic leader of this group emerged. Others heard the libertarians were doing well in the mountains. They planned to form a libertarian plains society. The central power group said this would be disastrous and passed even more laws to control the unrest. They talked of war with the central committee group over access to the source of the sacred oils, and a mysterious, sneak attack on a rowboat.

The outcome was uncertain.

tribution. I wholeheartedly support John in this effort. If each of us could contribute 1% of our monthly net pay (\$5 or \$10 or whatever) the party can continue to organize and prepare for 1982 and beyond.

Just as important each of us should set aside a few small blocks of time to assist the party to organize in the outlying counties and towns. The long range viability of our party rests almost solely on our ability to organize on the local level.

Thank you,
PHIL PROSSER

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Library, Anyone?

Have you looked at the price of books lately? It's gone up more than almost anything else. Generally, there's no solution: either pay the price, or go to the public library; yet, many libraries don't have the kind of books that interest Libertarians. You can rarely find the type of books on politics, economics, tax revolt, and science fiction, "future history", and fiction Libertarians prefer.

Further, for those among us who need, for one reason or another, to do research, think how helpful it would be to be able to go to one place for Libertarian information instead of spending a lot of time seeking books with a Libertarian theme.

There is a solution — a CLP library. But, like anything else in the free market, it has to be (at least) self-sufficient. The most viable alternative is a subscription library, in which those who wish to use the service pay for it.

Here's an idea of how it could work: if you want to borrow books from the library,

you pay a subscription fee. A reasonable amount, \$5.00 for an individual and \$8.50 for a family, would entitle you to use the library for a year (or, you might donate a book instead of paying the fee.) Then, every time you borrow a book, you pay a nominal fee; 50¢ for the first week, and 25¢ for each week thereafter. With both of these fees, there would be money to buy new books and replace supplies.

There is a space at the Headquarters building that would be suitable, but it needs paint, furniture (chairs, a table, good lighting), bookshelves, and supplies.

The first thing such a project needs is enthusiasm — people to contribute books, time, and money; and people who are interested in giving their support. We need to know what titles you have to donate, and which ones you'd like to buy. If you want to see this idea become reality, let us know at CLP Headquarters as soon as possible — January would be a good time to start operating!

LETTER TO THE EDITOR

Fellow Libertarians:

The late campaign has been an enlightening experience for all of us; most especially newcomers such as myself. In talking to Libertarians around the state I have detected an inclination to continue the campaign straight into 1982. I feel that this is imperative.

To do this we must keep the LP office open and hire a full time coordinator. To accomplish this goal John Mason has asked each of us to make a small monthly con-